2001, reaffirming that global terrorism is a threat to international peace and security and that co-operation to combat terrorism is becoming an imperative of contemporary reality. Both sides reiterated the view that combating terrorism must be on a comprehensive and long term basis and should be directed also at those supporting, harbouring and providing safe haven to terrorists. After Prime Minister's meeting with the US President, a Joint Statement was issued on 9th November 2001, at Washington D.C. In the statement both countries affirmed the need for a global war against terrorism and its sponsors everywhere in the world, and reiterated that there can be no justification for terrorism, which must be eradicated wherever it exists.

On India-Pakistan relations Prime Minister and EAM conveyed that while India is committed to establishing good neighbourly ties with Pakistan, it cannot be expected to ignore its vital security concerns. Pakistan must halt its sponsorship of cross border terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir and other parts of India. Government also conveyed that India was firmly resolved, and had the ability and stamina to resist terrorism until it is decisively crushed.

Discussion with US President about ethnic cleansing in Bangladesh

1261. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the matter relating to ethnic cleansing in Bangladesh, which has resulted millions of Bangladeshi minorities homeless since new Government rose to power in Dhaka was taken up with the President of USA during his recent visit in USA;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the President of USA thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) No, sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Safety arrangement for nuclear facilities

1262. SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in 'The Stateman' Delhi edition, dated the 2nd November,